



**Local Access Cable Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
August 24, 2021 5:45pm Via Zoom**

**Members Attending: Bob Glorioso, Lee Pappas, Lisa Lavina, Meredith Bartlett, Jim Salvie, Jonathan Daisy** Also Attending: Lew Halprin

Meeting Called to order 5:45pm

**Approve Meeting Minutes**

Jim moved, Meredith second, to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2021 Meeting. Unanimously approved.

Jonathan will be recording the new Superintendent's welcome presentation to the Nashoba staff/faculty.

**Comcast Contract 2022 Renewal Negotiations**

Attorney Bill Solomon joined the meeting at 5:53pm. Per his last conversation with Greg, the numbers we requested had been recommended, but no response from Greg's director. Discussed a buyout of the video return system for \$31,440 (Bill's calculation) and we would have fiber installed (for PEG Access video return), improving the current signal.

Other issues: The HD channel / SD channel exchange. Bill recommends considering agreeing in trade for other aspects that are more critical to us. More likely to get us the capital we're requesting.

Encoders: Could fail at any time, and then Comcast will be out of compliance. Repair at their cost right after contract is signed.

We could sign before the license is up in Oct 2022.

**Conversation with Comcast Rep Greg Franks**

Greg Franks joins meeting at 6:13pm

Estimate is in on 2 SD and 1 HD channels \$15K. We'll be expected to pay for these. This will get us the HD set up much earlier. A 3<sup>rd</sup> SD channel would need an addition of an encoder. Bill, we're good with t

Our request could go into the current budget, Could get the total upgrade in 2023 (6 months from the license effective date) This would be for all the work, no reason to separate it. There are current equipment issues, but this would get you the HD at the same time.

Capital: a good number and is still recommending it to his director (Jerry). Maybe you'd prefer a per sub per month amount per subscriber? Up to us.

Jonathan: Coax and HD conversion: have learned from Greg it is HD capable. Bill: but may not be the desirable option. Could we do a buyout of the video return and have fiber for HD. Then they wouldn't have the current problem with the equipment. My estimate is that the value is \$31k based on how Jerry would calculate it.

Greg: I like that idea, Stow has a high FRC and this would help.

Bill will write up a draft of the license once hearing back from Greg. (Greg has a call with Jerry next week.) When all is in hand, we'll plan a meeting in mid-to-late September. Meeting will be called when all is ready.

Greg signed off at 6:25pm

Further discussion: Bill will confirm when we would get the actual HD installation. Question: is it 6 months after signing or 6 months after contract takes effect?

Lew asked if current contract runs its length or expires when new contract is signed? **(Not sure if Bill said the new one takes effect, or it doesn't.)**

Lisa moved, Lee second, to adjourn

Meeting Adjourned at 6:30pm

Submitted by: Lisa Lavina, vice chair